Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during the June 13, 2002 personal interview. Applicants separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated in the following remarks.

The Office Action requests a drawing be furnished to facilitate understanding of the invention as required under 37 C.F.R. §1.81. However, as discussed and agreed during the personal interview, drawings were filed on November 14, 2001 and are included in the file wrapper of the instant application. As such Applicants are not required to submit a drawing.

Applicants request the amendment to Fig. 2 as provided in the attached Request for Approval of Drawing Corrections be approved. The amendments are not made in reply to the Office Action, but merely to distinguish the inner and outer grooves recited in the original claims. Support for the amendment to Fig. 2 can be found throughout the specification and at least at page 8, lines 10-16, as well as in the claims. Thus, no new matter is added.

The Office Action states that the incorporation of the essential material in the specification by reference to a foreign application or patent is improper. Applicants have deleted page 1, lines 3-6 to remove the identified reference.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,508,577 to Shiga et al. (Shiga), and claims 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Shiga. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants submit that, as discussed and agreed at the personal interview, the amendments to the claims distinguish over Shiga. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection of the claims be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application is requested. It is submitted that the claims as presented herein patentably distinguish over the applied reference and fully meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Accordingly, allowance of claims 1-11 is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

John W. Fitzpatrick
Registration No. 41,018

JAO:JWF/mmc

Attachments:
Appendix
Request for Approval of Drawing Corrections

Date: June 14, 2002

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION
Please grant any extension necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461

APPENDIX

Changes to Specification:

Page 1, lines 3-6 are deleted.

Changes to Claims:

Claims 9-11 are added.

The following is a marked-up version of the amended claims:

1. (Amended) A rotary electric machine, comprising:

an armature core having a predetermined number of slots;

an armature coil having a predetermined number of lower layer coils and upper layer coils installed in double layers in each of the slots against the armature core, the lower layer coils and the upper layer coils each having a straight portion and an arm portion bent generally perpendicularly from the straight portion;

an insulating plate interposed for insulation between the arm portion of the lower layer coil and the arm portion of the upper layer coil which are provided axially outside of an axial end surface of the armature core;

a cylindrical body circularly surrounding an outer periphery of a coil end portion ~~of the upper layer coil, the coil end portion locating~~ that is a part of the straight portion of the upper layer coil, which protrudes axially outside of the axial end surface of the armature core and ~~excluding~~ excludes the arm portion of the upper layer coil, the cylindrical body allowing outer grooves provided between adjacent two of the arm portions of the upper layer coils to open in a radially outward direction; and

a resin insulator filled in an inner groove defined among adjacent coil end portions in a peripheral direction, the axial end surface of the armature core and the insulating plate.

2. (Amended) The rotary electric machine as in claim 1, wherein the cylindrical body is fixed ~~to the armature core~~on the outer periphery of the coil end portion with the resin insulator.